

Message Text

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UNCLAS ATHENS 10394

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, GW, GR

SUBJECT: STRAUSS' ALLEGED CONTACTS WITH GREEK RIGHTISTS

REF: MUNICH 2275

1. ALLEGATIONS OF FRANZ JOSEPH STRAUSS' CONNECTIONS WITH GREEK RIGHTISTS AND OF PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS' PURPORTED UNHAPPINESS WITH KUCH TIES HAVE BEEN PROMINENT IN THE GREEK PRESS AS WELL IN RECENT WEEKS. IN GENERAL THESE ALLEGATIONS CLOSELY FOLLOW THOSE MADE IN THE GERMAN PRESS, AS REPORTED IN REFTEL, AND IN MANY CASES ARE BASED ON REPORTS DATEDLINE DATEDLINE GERMANY

2. THE OPPOSITION PRESS, AND PARTICULARLY THE LIBERAL, OPPOSITION PAPER TO VIMA, HAS FOLDED THE STORY THAT THE GOG HAS COMPLAINED ABOUT STRAUSS' ACTIVITIES TOGETHER WITH REPORTS OF FRG-GOG DIFFERENCES OVER THE POHLE CASE TO PRODUCE A PICTURE OF BAD AND WORSENING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SCHMIDT AND CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENTS. IN RESPONSE TO THIS, A GREEK "GOVERNMENT SOURCE" ON SEPTEMBER 21 COMPLAINED TO THE PRESS ABOUT "INACCURATE AND EXAGGERATED" STORIES IN THE GREEK AND GERMAN PRESS ABOUT "THE RELATIONS OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WITH THE GERMAN

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GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION PERSONALITIES". THE GOG SOURCE WENT

ON TO DECLARE THAT GREEK-GERMAN RELATIONS ARE "IN EXCELLENT
CONDITION."
KUBISCH

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NNN

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